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# Observer-Based State-Space Current Controller for a Grid Converter Equipped With an LCL Filter: Analytical Method for Direct Discrete-Time Design

Jarno Kukkola, Marko Hinkkanen, *Senior Member, IEEE*, and Kai Zenger, *Member, IEEE*

**Abstract**—State-space current control enables high dynamic performance of a three-phase grid-connected converter equipped with an LCL filter. In this paper, observer-based state-space control is designed using direct pole placement in the discrete-time domain and in grid-voltage coordinates. Analytical expressions for the controller and observer gains are derived as functions of the physical system parameters and design specifications. The connection between the physical parameters and the control algorithm enables automatic tuning. Parameter sensitivity of the control method is analyzed. The experimental results show that the resonance of the LCL filter is well damped, and the dynamic performance specified by direct pole placement is obtained for the reference tracking and grid-voltage disturbance rejection.

**Index Terms**—Active damping, current control, grid-connected converter, LCL filter, parameter sensitivity, sensorless state feedback.

## I. INTRODUCTION

**G**RID-CONNECTED converters play an important role in the grid integration of renewable energy sources. They are also increasingly used as an active front-end rectifier in motor drives, and interest for using an LCL filter between the converter and the grid has increased during the past few years. The LCL filter affords better grid-current quality, lower cost, and smaller physical size in comparison with the conventional L filter. However, a disadvantage of the LCL filters is the resonant behavior. The resonance can be damped actively using control [1] or passively at the expense of losses [2]. With state-space current control [3]–[12], the dominant and resonant dynamics can be simultaneously set through pole placement of the closed-loop system. Hence, state-space control provides a convenient and straightforward way for resonance damping, when high dominant dynamic performance is desired [4].

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In state-space control, the closed-loop poles can be placed using various approaches: 1) dead-beat control [3]; 2) optimizing some cost function as in linear quadratic (LQ) control [3], [8], [9]; 3) using Bessel functions [5]; and 4) selecting the desired pole locations directly [4], [7], [10], [11]. LQ control is attractive for very complex systems, because it provides an indirect method for pole placement based on optimal control. However, the nonlinear Riccati equation has to be solved, which is not easy analytically or in real time. Furthermore, selection of the cost-function weights is difficult [9]. On the other hand, with direct pole placement, the controller gains can be analytically expressed using the parameters of the system and dynamic performance specifications (i.e., the bandwidth of current control and the resonance damping of the LCL filter) [4], [10], [11]. The analytical design methods enable automatic tuning and real-time adaptation of the controller, if the parameters are known or estimated. This is valuable in grid connection, because the topology and impedance of the grid can vary.

The state-space current controller using direct pole placement has been analytically designed in stationary [4], [11] and synchronous coordinates [10]. When the state-space controller has been designed in stationary coordinates, current control has been implemented fully [4] or partially [11] in synchronous coordinates, and additional approximate cross-coupling compensation loops have been used. These loops are not needed, if the controller is directly designed in synchronous coordinates [10]. However, in [10], the continuous-time domain design has been used. Then, the controller must be discretized, which decreases feasible dynamic performance [13] and pole-placement accuracy with low sampling frequencies. The pole-placement accuracy in the direct discrete-time design is dependent on modeling accuracy. In [4], the design has been based on a model in stationary coordinates, although control has been implemented in synchronous coordinates. In [11], the cross-coupling compensation and integrator loops have been neglected in the pole-placement design. Thus, the pole-placement accuracy is decreased in [4] and [11]. In order to use state-space control, all the states must be measured or estimated [5], [7]–[10], [12], [14]. Direct discrete-time pole placement would be also a convenient method for tuning of the state observer, but no analytical solution in synchronous coordinates has been reported.

In this paper, a discrete-time observer-based state-space current controller for the converter equipped with an LCL filter is

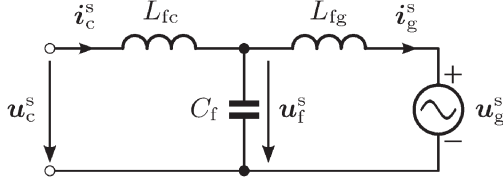


Fig. 1. Space-vector circuit model of the LCL filter in stationary coordinates (marked with the superscript  $s$ ).

proposed. Due to the state observer, less sensors are needed in comparison with the methods in [3], [4], and [11]. The main contributions of this work are as follows.

- 1) Analytical expressions for the controller and observer gains are derived as functions of the physical filter parameters and the desired pole locations. Due to direct pole placement in synchronous coordinates, no additional cross-coupling compensation loops are needed. The analytical gain expressions enable implementation in real converters.
- 2) Design guidelines for selecting the pole locations are given.

The effect of the varying grid impedance and LCL filter parameters on stability is examined. The proposed method is experimentally validated and compared with the design based on the continuous-time domain [10].

## II. SYSTEM MODEL

Complex space vectors in synchronous dq coordinates are used (e.g., the converter current  $\mathbf{i}_c = i_{cd} + j i_{cq}$ ). Complex, matrix, and vector quantities are marked with boldface symbols. The equivalent circuit model for the LCL filter is shown in Fig. 1, and the state-space current control structure is shown in Fig. 2. Current control is implemented in grid-voltage oriented synchronous coordinates, where the grid voltage is  $\mathbf{u}_g = u_g + j0$ . Two phase-to-phase grid voltages and the converter phase currents are measured for the state-space controller. Furthermore, the dc-link voltage  $u_d$  is measured for the pulsewidth modulator (PWM), which calculates the duty cycles for the power switches.

In the following, continuous-time and discrete-time LCL filter models for control design purposes are introduced. The losses of the filter are neglected for several reasons: 1) the lossless filter represents the worst case scenario for the resonance of the LCL filter; 2) the complexity of the discrete-time model and control algorithms will remain reasonable; and 3) particularly with higher power ratings, the losses in the filter are relatively small.

### A. Continuous-Time Model

The state vector is selected as  $\mathbf{x} = [\mathbf{i}_c, \mathbf{u}_f, \mathbf{i}_g]^T$ , where  $\mathbf{u}_f$  is the voltage across the filter capacitor  $C_f$ ; and  $\mathbf{i}_c$  and  $\mathbf{i}_g$  are the converter and grid currents, respectively. In synchronous

coordinates rotating at the grid angular frequency  $\omega_g$ , the continuous-time dynamics of the converter current  $\mathbf{i}_c$  are

$$\frac{d\mathbf{x}}{dt} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} -j\omega_g & -\frac{1}{L_{fc}} & 0 \\ \frac{1}{C_f} & -j\omega_g & -\frac{1}{C_f} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{L_{fg}} & -j\omega_g \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{A}} \mathbf{x} + \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{L_{fc}} \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{B}_c} \mathbf{u}_c + \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ -\frac{1}{L_{fg}} \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{B}_g} \mathbf{u}_g \quad (1)$$

$$\mathbf{i}_c = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{C}_c} \mathbf{x}.$$

The transfer function from the converter voltage  $\mathbf{u}_c(s)$  to the converter current  $\mathbf{i}_c(s)$  is

$$\mathbf{Y}(s) = \mathbf{C}_c(s\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})^{-1}\mathbf{B}_c = \frac{1}{L_{fc}} \frac{(s + j\omega_g)^2 + \omega_z^2}{(s + j\omega_g)[(s + j\omega_g)^2 + \omega_p^2]} \quad (2)$$

where

$$\omega_p = \sqrt{\frac{L_{fc} + L_{fg}}{L_{fc}L_{fg}C_f}} \quad \omega_z = \sqrt{\frac{1}{L_{fg}C_f}} \quad (3)$$

are the resonance frequency and the antiresonance frequency of the filter, respectively.

### B. Hold-Equivalent Discrete-Time Model

In the following, a hold-equivalent discrete-time model is presented. Sampling of the converter current and the grid voltage is synchronized with the PWM. The sampling frequency equals the switching frequency in the single-update PWM or twice the switching frequency in the double-update PWM. The switching-cycle-averaged converter output voltage is considered, and the PWM is modeled as the zero-order hold (ZOH) in stationary coordinates [15]. In other words, the converter voltage  $\mathbf{u}_c^s(t)$  is constant<sup>1</sup> during  $kT_s < t < (k+1)T_s$ , where  $T_s$  is the sampling period, and  $k$  is the discrete-time index. On the contrary, the grid voltage  $\mathbf{u}_g(t)$  is assumed to be constant in synchronous coordinates during  $T_s$ . Furthermore, the filter parameters and the frequency  $\omega_g$  are assumed to be constant during the sampling period. Under these assumptions, the exact discrete-time model of (1) becomes

$$\mathbf{x}(k+1) = \mathbf{\Phi}\mathbf{x}(k) + \mathbf{\Gamma}_c\mathbf{u}_c(k) + \mathbf{\Gamma}_g\mathbf{u}_g(k) \quad (4)$$

$$\mathbf{i}_c(k) = \mathbf{C}_c\mathbf{x}(k)$$

where the system matrices are

$$\mathbf{\Phi} = e^{\mathbf{A}T_s}, \quad \mathbf{\Gamma}_c = \left( \int_0^{T_s} e^{\mathbf{A}\tau} e^{-j\omega_g(T_s-\tau)} d\tau \right) \mathbf{B}_c$$

$$\mathbf{\Gamma}_g = \left( \int_0^{T_s} e^{\mathbf{A}\tau} d\tau \right) \mathbf{B}_g. \quad (5)$$

<sup>1</sup>If the reference for the PWM is updated in the middle of the sampling period, the averaged converter voltage is piecewise constant [16]. A discrete-time model could be also derived for this particular scheme.

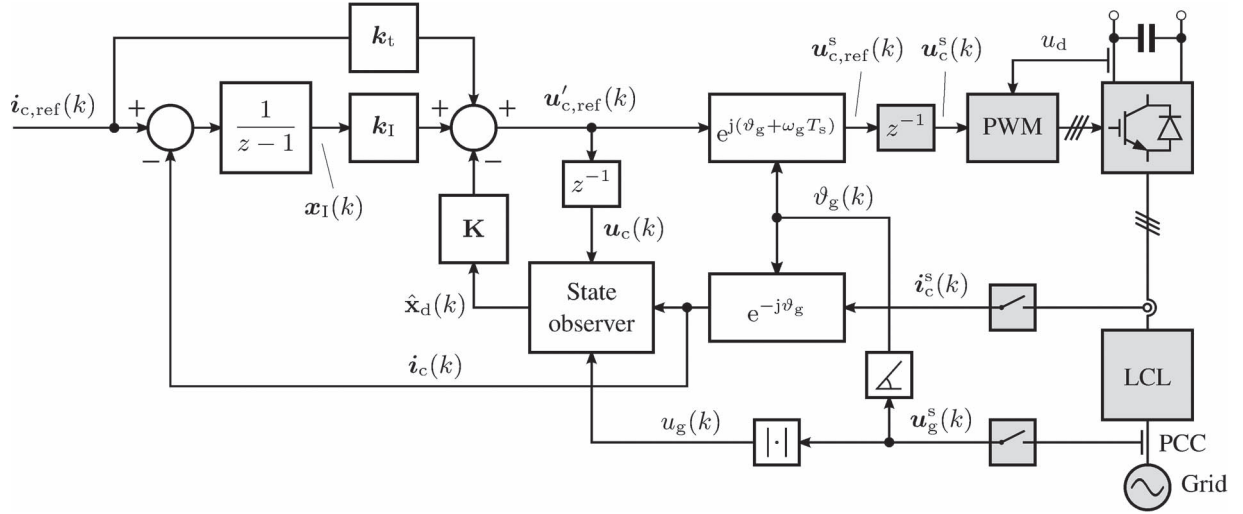


Fig. 2. Current control system. The gray blocks represent the plant model, and the white blocks represent the control algorithm. The sampling is synchronized with the PWM. The effect of the computational delay  $z^{-1}$  on the angle of the converter voltage  $u_c^s$  is compensated for in the coordinate transformation. In the implementation, the grid-voltage angle  $\vartheta_g$  and the magnitude  $u_g$  are calculated using a PLL. In order to simplify the block diagram, the signal  $u_c$  is fed directly through the state observer block and included in its output vector, i.e.,  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}_d = [\hat{\mathbf{x}}^T \ u_c]^T$ .

For  $\Gamma_c$ , the factor  $e^{-j\omega_g(T_s - \tau)}$  inside the integral originates from the ZOH being modeled in stationary coordinates, i.e., the converter voltage is time variant in synchronous coordinates during  $T_s$ . The closed-form expressions for the elements of the matrices in (5) are given in Appendix A.

Due to the finite computation time, the converter-voltage reference  $u_{c,ref}^s$  calculated at the present time step becomes active at the next time step. This delay is modeled in stationary coordinates as  $u_c^s(k) = u_{c,ref}^s(k-1)$ , when the PWM operates in the linear region. In synchronous coordinates, the relation is  $u_c(k) = u'_{c,ref}(k-1) = e^{-j\omega_g T_s} u_{c,ref}(k-1)$ , where the modified reference  $u'_{c,ref}$  is introduced in order to simplify notation. The computational delay can be included in the discrete-time model as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x}_d(k+1) &= \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \Phi & \Gamma_c \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{\Phi_d} \mathbf{x}_d(k) + \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{\Gamma_{cd}} u'_{c,ref}(k) + \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \Gamma_g \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{\Gamma_{gd}} u_g(k) \\ i_c(k) &= \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} C_c & 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{C_d} \mathbf{x}_d(k) \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

where the new state vector is  $\mathbf{x}_d = [\mathbf{x}^T, u_c]^T$ .

### III. CURRENT CONTROL DESIGN

#### A. State-Space Controller

1) *Control Law:* The current control structure is shown in Fig. 2. For improved disturbance rejection, an integral state

$$\mathbf{x}_I(k+1) = \mathbf{x}_I(k) + i_{c,ref}(k) - i_c(k) \quad (7)$$

is introduced, where  $i_{c,ref}$  is the reference current. The state-space control law is

$$u'_{c,ref}(k) = k_t i_{c,ref}(k) + k_I x_I(k) - K \hat{\mathbf{x}}_d(k) \quad (8)$$

where  $k_t$  is the feedforward gain,  $k_I$  is the integral gain,  $K = [k_1, k_2, k_3, k_4]$  is the state-feedback gain, and  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}_d = [\hat{\mathbf{x}}^T, u_c]^T$  is the state estimate augmented with the delayed voltage reference. A compensation for the angular displacement due to the computational delay is included in the coordinate transformation, as shown in Fig. 2. The state feedback together with the integral action can be designed from the standpoint of resonance damping and disturbance rejection. The reference feedforward provides an additional degree of freedom for the reference-tracking design.

2) *Analytical Pole-Placement Design:* For pole placement, the system model (6) is augmented with the integral state (7), resulting in

$$\begin{aligned} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_d(k+1) \\ \mathbf{x}_I(k+1) \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{x}_a(k+1)} &= \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \Phi_d & 0 \\ -C_d & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{\Phi_a} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_d(k) \\ \mathbf{x}_I(k) \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{x}_a(k)} + \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \Gamma_{cd} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{\Gamma_{ca}} u'_{c,ref}(k) \\ &+ \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{\Gamma_{ra}} i_{c,ref}(k) + \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \Gamma_{gd} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{\Gamma_{ga}} u_g(k) \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

where  $\mathbf{x}_a$  is the augmented state vector; and  $\Phi_a$ ,  $\Gamma_{ca}$ ,  $\Gamma_{ra}$ , and  $\Gamma_{ga}$  are the augmented system matrices. From (8) and (9), the closed-loop dynamics become

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x}_a(k+1) &= (\Phi_a - \Gamma_{ca} K_a) \mathbf{x}_a(k) \\ &+ (\Gamma_{ca} k_t + \Gamma_{ra}) i_{c,ref}(k) + \Gamma_{ga} u_g(k) \\ i_c(k) &= C_a \mathbf{x}_a(k) \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

where  $K_a = [K, -k_I]$  is the augmented state-feedback gain,  $C_a = [1, 0, 0, 0]$  is the output matrix, and the state estimate  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}_d$  in (8) has been replaced with the true state  $\mathbf{x}_d$  based on the

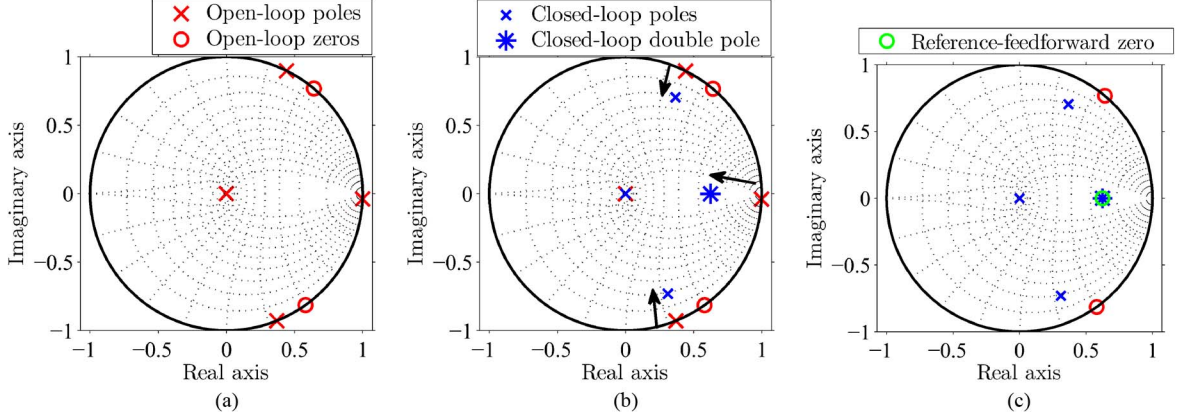


Fig. 3. Pole-zero plots. (a) Poles and zeros of the open-loop transfer function from  $\mathbf{u}'_{c,\text{ref}}(z)$  to  $\mathbf{i}_c(z)$ . (b) Closed-loop poles are set to the desired locations. (c) Poles and zeros of the closed-loop transfer function from  $\mathbf{i}_{c,\text{ref}}(z)$  to  $\mathbf{i}_c(z)$ .

separation principle [17]. The transfer function from the current reference  $\mathbf{i}_{c,\text{ref}}(z)$  to the converter current  $\mathbf{i}_c(z)$  is

$$\mathbf{G}_c(z) = \frac{\mathbf{b}(z)}{\mathbf{a}(z)} = \mathbf{C}_a(z\mathbf{I} - \Phi_a + \Gamma_{ca}\mathbf{K}_a)^{-1}(\Gamma_{ca}\mathbf{k}_t + \Gamma_{ra}). \quad (11)$$

The numerator polynomial is

$$\mathbf{b}(z) = \mathbf{b}_{c1}(z - \beta_1)(z - \beta_2)(\mathbf{k}_t z - \mathbf{k}_t + \mathbf{k}_l) \quad (12)$$

where  $\mathbf{b}_{c1}$  is the first element of the input matrix  $\Gamma_c$  [cf., (26) in Appendix A],  $\beta_1$  and  $\beta_2$  are the resonant open-loop zeros, and the third zero depends on the feedforward gain  $\mathbf{k}_t$ . The denominator polynomial (i.e., the characteristic polynomial) is

$$\mathbf{a}(z) = \det(z\mathbf{I} - \Phi_a + \Gamma_{ca}\mathbf{K}_a). \quad (13)$$

Let the desired closed-loop characteristic polynomial be

$$\mathbf{a}(z) = z(z - \alpha_1)(z - \alpha_2)(z - \alpha_3)(z - \alpha_4) \quad (14)$$

where one pole originating from the computational delay is set to zero, and the selection of the four remaining pole locations will be discussed in Section III-A3. The gain  $\mathbf{K}_a$  leading to the desired characteristic polynomial (14) could be solved using numerical tools. However, if the gain can be computed in the microprocessor of a converter, the control system can be tuned automatically, and the performance specifications can be changed in real time. For this purpose, analytical expressions for the gain  $\mathbf{K}_a$  as a function of the system parameters and the desired pole locations are derived in Appendix B.

3) *Selection of Pole Locations:* Fig. 3(a) shows the poles and the zeros of the open-loop transfer function from  $\mathbf{u}'_{c,\text{ref}}(z)$  to  $\mathbf{i}_c(z)$ , obtained from (6). The poles and zeros on the unit circle are the discrete counterparts of those in (2). Furthermore, there is a pole originating from the delay at  $z = 0$ .

The poles of the closed-loop system can be arbitrarily set within the limits of the accessible control effort and modeling precision. When selecting pole locations, compromises between robustness and dynamic performance have to be made [4], [10]. In the characteristic polynomial (14), the two complex poles  $\alpha_{1,2}$  are placed to determine the dominant dynamics

(i.e., the bandwidth), and the other two poles  $\alpha_{3,4}$  are placed to determine the resonant dynamics (i.e., the resonance damping). It is typically easier to specify the pole locations first in the continuous-time domain and then map them to the discrete-time domain via  $z = \exp(sT_s)$ . In the continuous-time domain, the dominant and resonant dynamics can be split into two second-order polynomials as

$$\underbrace{(s^2 + 2\zeta_{cd}\omega_{cd}s + \omega_{cd}^2)}_{\text{Dominant dynamics}} \underbrace{(s^2 + 2\zeta_{cr}\omega_{cr}s + \omega_{cr}^2)}_{\text{Resonant dynamics}}. \quad (15)$$

Let us first consider the poles of the dominant dynamics. The natural frequency  $\omega_{cd}$  is related to the desired bandwidth, and the damping ratio is set to a high value, i.e.,  $\zeta_{cd} = 0.7, \dots, 1$ , in order to prevent large overshoots. The corresponding discrete poles are

$$\alpha_{1,2} = \exp \left[ \left( -\zeta_{cd} \pm j\sqrt{1 - \zeta_{cd}^2} \right) \omega_{cd} T_s \right]. \quad (16)$$

For simplicity,  $\zeta_{cd} = 1$  is selected here, leading to a double real pole. Fig. 3(b) illustrates the effect of the state-feedback control on the pole locations. The dominant complex pole at  $z = \exp(-j\omega_g T_s)$  is moved to  $z = \exp(-\omega_{cd} T_s)$ , and the pole originating from the integral state is also placed at  $z = \exp(-\omega_{cd} T_s)$ , leading to a double real pole.

To keep control effort low, the resonant pole pair should be kept near its natural frequency (i.e.,  $\omega_{cr} \approx \omega_p$ ). It is typically sufficient to damp the resonance with the ratio of  $\zeta_{cr} = 0.1, \dots, 0.4$ . Selecting much higher values for  $\zeta_{cr}$  is not recommended due to the increasing control effort [17]. The closed-loop resonant poles are placed asymmetrically, i.e.,

$$\alpha_{3,4} = \exp(-j\omega_g T_s) \cdot \exp \left[ \left( -\zeta_{cr} \pm j\sqrt{1 - \zeta_{cr}^2} \right) \omega_{cr} T_s \right] \quad (17)$$

corresponding to the asymmetry of the open-loop resonant poles. Here,  $\zeta_{cr} = 0.2$  is selected. It is shown in Fig. 3(b) that the resonant poles are damped, but their frequency is not altered in order to minimize the control effort.

Fig. 4 shows the frequency responses of the transfer function from the grid voltage  $\mathbf{u}_g(z)$  to the grid current  $\mathbf{i}_g(z)$  for the



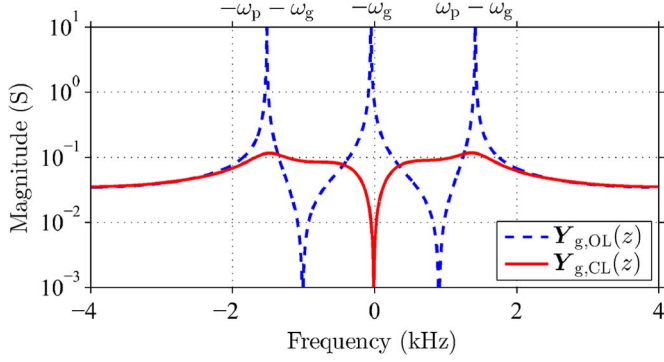


Fig. 4. Frequency response of the transfer function from the grid voltage  $\mathbf{u}_g(z)$  to the grid current  $\mathbf{i}_g(z)$  in synchronous coordinates. The open-loop transfer function is obtained from (4) as  $\mathbf{Y}_{g,OL}(z) = \mathbf{C}_g(z\mathbf{I} - \Phi)^{-1}\Gamma_g$ , where  $\mathbf{C}_g = [0, 0, 1]$ . The closed-loop transfer function  $\mathbf{Y}_{g,CL}$  is obtained from (10) in a similar manner.

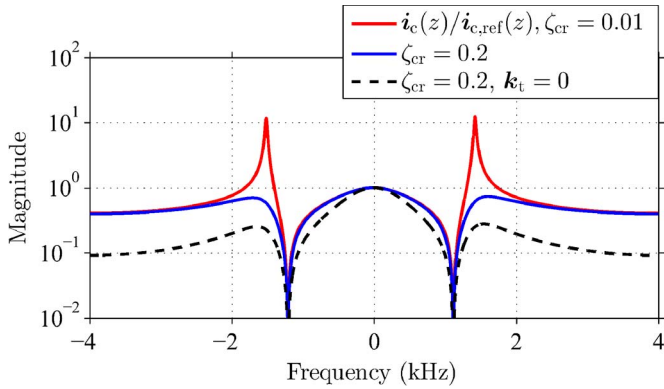


Fig. 5. Frequency response of the transfer function (11) from the current reference  $\mathbf{i}_{c,ref}(z)$  to the converter current  $\mathbf{i}_c(z)$  in synchronous coordinates. Different (solid lines) damping ratios  $\zeta_{cr}$  and the case without the reference feedforward ( $\mathbf{k}_t = 0$ , dashed line) are shown.

open- and closed-loop cases. These transfer functions can be interpreted as converter output admittances, and they describe the effect of the grid-voltage disturbance on the grid current. The damping ratio in the closed-loop case is  $\zeta_{cr} = 0.2$ . It can be seen that the resonance peaks are well damped by the state-feedback control. Furthermore, the closed-loop transfer function is low in the vicinity of the zero frequency (within the approximate bandwidth  $\omega_{cd}$  of the control), where the control is effective against the disturbances.

4) *Selection of a Zero Location:* Fig. 3(c) shows the poles and zeros of the closed-loop transfer function (11) from  $\mathbf{i}_{c,ref}(z)$  to  $\mathbf{i}_c(z)$ . Generally, the state-feedback control has no effect on the zeros. The open-loop zeros  $\beta_{1,2}$  shown in Fig. 3(a) are also present in the closed-loop system. However, the reference-feedforward path of the control law (8) produces a new zero in (11). If the zero is to be placed at  $\beta_t$ , the feedforward gain becomes

$$\mathbf{k}_t = \mathbf{k}_I / (1 - \beta_t). \quad (18)$$

This zero can be used to cancel (fully or partially) the closed-loop pole originating from the integral state [17]. Here, the zero is placed on the double pole, i.e.,  $\beta_t = \exp(-\omega_{cd}T_s)$ .

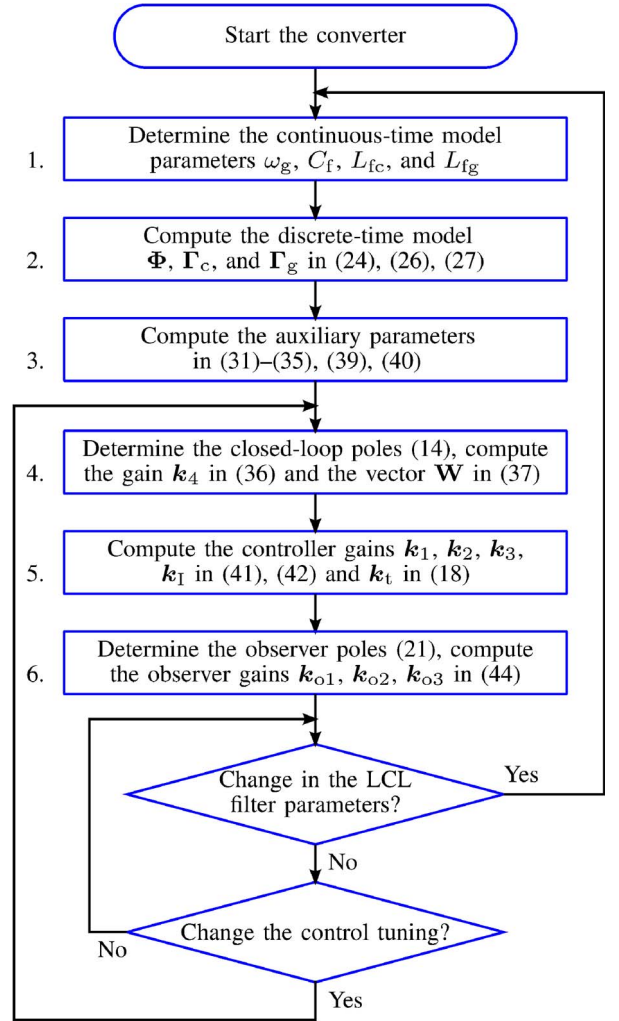


Fig. 6. Flowchart of current control tuning.

Hence, the resulting low-frequency reference-tracking dynamics become of the first order, with an approximate bandwidth of  $\omega_{cd}$ .

Fig. 5 presents the frequency response of the transfer function (11). It can be seen that the reference feedforward increases the reference-tracking bandwidth. It is to be noted that the feedforward gain has no impact on the closed-loop disturbance-rejection transfer function.

The aforementioned guidelines for selecting the pole and zero locations will be used in the parameter sensitivity analysis (see Section IV) and in the experiments (see Section V). It is worth noticing that the pole locations could be further optimized. Fig. 6 illustrates the process of computing the controller gains. The closed-loop poles can be placed using basic arithmetics, and no nonlinear equations need to be solved, contrary to LQ control [9]. This enables automatic tuning of the controller, if the system parameters are known or estimated. It is to be noted that steps 1–3 in Fig. 6 need to be calculated only once (during the start-up of a converter), if the filter parameters are not changed. The reference tracking and disturbance rejection dynamics can be easily altered in real time by running steps 4–6.

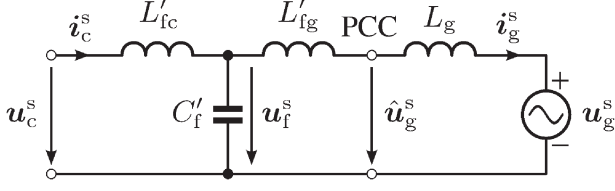


Fig. 7. Space-vector circuit model of an LCL filter connected to an inductive grid in stationary coordinates. The voltage  $\hat{u}_g$  at the PCC is used in the control system.

### B. State Observer

The state observer is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\mathbf{x}}(k+1) = & \Phi \hat{\mathbf{x}}(k) + \Gamma_c \mathbf{u}_c(k) + \Gamma_g \mathbf{u}_g(k) \\ & + \mathbf{K}_o [\mathbf{i}_c(k) - \mathbf{C}_c \hat{\mathbf{x}}(k)] \end{aligned} \quad (19)$$

where  $\mathbf{K}_o = [\mathbf{k}_{o1}, \mathbf{k}_{o2}, \mathbf{k}_{o3}]^T$  is the observer gain matrix. The characteristic polynomial of the estimation-error dynamics is

$$\mathbf{a}_o(z) = \det(z\mathbf{I} - \Phi + \mathbf{K}_o \mathbf{C}_c) \quad (20)$$

and the desired characteristic polynomial is

$$\mathbf{a}_o(z) = (z - \alpha_{o1})(z - \alpha_{o2})(z - \alpha_{o3}). \quad (21)$$

Analytical expressions for the observer gain  $\mathbf{K}_o$  as a function of the system parameters and the desired closed-loop poles are given in Appendix B.

Again, the discrete-time poles of  $\mathbf{a}_o(z)$  can be mapped via its continuous-time counterpart  $(s + \alpha_{od})(s^2 + 2\zeta_{or}\omega_{or}s + \omega_{or}^2)$ . The real pole  $\alpha_{od}$  determines the dominant dynamics, and the complex-conjugate poles (parametrized via  $\omega_{or}$  and  $\zeta_{or}$ ) are placed at a higher frequency. A rule of thumb to select the observer poles is to set them at least twice as fast as the controller dynamics [17]. Here, the real pole  $\alpha_{od} = 2\omega_{cd}$  is selected, and the complex-conjugate poles are placed at the resonance frequency  $\omega_{or} = \omega_p - \omega_g$  with the damping ratio  $\zeta_{or} = 0.7$ . Then, the controller poles dominate the dynamic response. The Nyquist frequency  $1/(2T_s)$  determines the uppermost limit for the selection of the poles.

## IV. PARAMETER SENSITIVITY

The stiff grid and accurate filter parameter estimates were assumed in the control design. Fig. 7 shows an equivalent circuit model of an LCL filter connected to an inductive grid. In the following, the stability of the control system is studied taking into account a nonzero grid inductance. Furthermore, the real filter parameters differ from the nominal values given in Table I. The real filter parameters are marked with the prime. The grid inductance is denoted by  $L_g$ , and the voltage at the point of common coupling (PCC) is denoted by  $\hat{u}_g$ . The voltage  $\hat{u}_g$  is used in the control system (instead of  $u_g$ , which is not accessible). The design parameters are given in Table II, and the pole locations correspond to (16) and (17). Nominal parameters are used in the control system.

TABLE I  
NOMINAL SYSTEM PARAMETERS

Param.	Value	Param.	Value
$u_g$	$\sqrt{2/3} \cdot 400$ V (1 p.u.)	$\omega_g$	$2\pi \cdot 50$ rad/s
$i_N$	$\sqrt{2} \cdot 18$ A (1 p.u.)	$L_{fg}$	1.96 mH (0.048 p.u.)
$L_{fc}$	2.94 mH (0.072 p.u.)	$u_d$	650 V (2 p.u.)
$C_f$	10 $\mu$ F (0.040 p.u.)	$\omega_z$	$2\pi \cdot 1140$ rad/s
$\omega_p$	$2\pi \cdot 1470$ rad/s	$T_s$	$1/(2f_{sw}) = 125$ $\mu$ s
$f_{sw}$	4 kHz		

TABLE II  
TUNING EXAMPLE

Controller		Observer	
Param.	Value	Param.	Value
$\omega_{cd}$	$2\pi \cdot 600$ rad/s	$\alpha_{od}$	$2\omega_{cd}$
$\zeta_{cd}$	1	$\omega_{or}$	$\omega_p - \omega_g$
$\omega_{cr}$	$\omega_p$	$\zeta_{or}$	0.7
$\zeta_{cr}$	0.2		

### A. Analysis

The real observer dynamics become

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\mathbf{x}}(k+1) = & \Phi \hat{\mathbf{x}}(k) + \Gamma_c \mathbf{u}_c(k) + \Gamma_g \frac{L_g \mathbf{u}_f(k) + L'_{fg} \mathbf{u}_g(k)}{L_g + L'_{fg}} \\ & + \mathbf{K}_o [\mathbf{C}_c \mathbf{x}(k) - \mathbf{C}_c \hat{\mathbf{x}}(k)] \end{aligned} \quad (22)$$

where  $\mathbf{u}_f = [0, 1, 0]\mathbf{x}$ . The closed-loop dynamics, including the controller and the observer, consist of (8), (9), and (22), where the real parameters ( $L'_{fc}$ ,  $C'_f$ , and  $L'_{fg} + L_g$ ) are used in (9). The stability of the closed-loop system is analyzed considering three different cases: 1) the filter inductances are nominal:  $L'_{fc} = L_{fc}$  and  $L'_{fg} = L_{fg}$ ; 2) the filter inductances are 10% larger than the nominal values:  $L'_{fc} = 1.1L_{fc}$  and  $L'_{fg} = 1.1L_{fg}$ ; and 3) the filter inductances are 10% smaller than the nominal ones:  $L'_{fc} = 0.9L_{fc}$  and  $L'_{fg} = 0.9L_{fg}$ . In all the cases, the real filter capacitance  $C'_f$  is varied from  $0.5C_f$  to  $1.5C_f$ , and the grid impedance  $L_g$  is varied from zero to  $L_{fg}$ . When  $L_g = L_{fg}$ , the effective grid-side inductance of the filter is doubled.

The stability is examined by calculating the eigenvalues of the closed-loop system. Fig. 8 shows the regions where all the eigenvalues are inside the unit circle, i.e., the discrete system is stable. The figure illustrates also the regions where the damping ratios of all the eigenvalues are larger than 0.05. As shown in the figure, the example system is more sensitive to the parameter variations in the LCL filter than to the varying grid inductance  $L_g$  behind the PCC. If the manufacturing tolerance of 10% is considered for the filter components, the system remains stable within the examined range of the grid inductance  $L_g$ . Generally, the analysis predicts stable operation within a wide range of parameter variations.

### B. Simulations

The parameter sensitivity analysis was validated using simulations. The dc voltage is constant, and the PWM of the converter was included in the model. A phase-locked loop (PLL) based on the synchronous-reference-frame transformation was

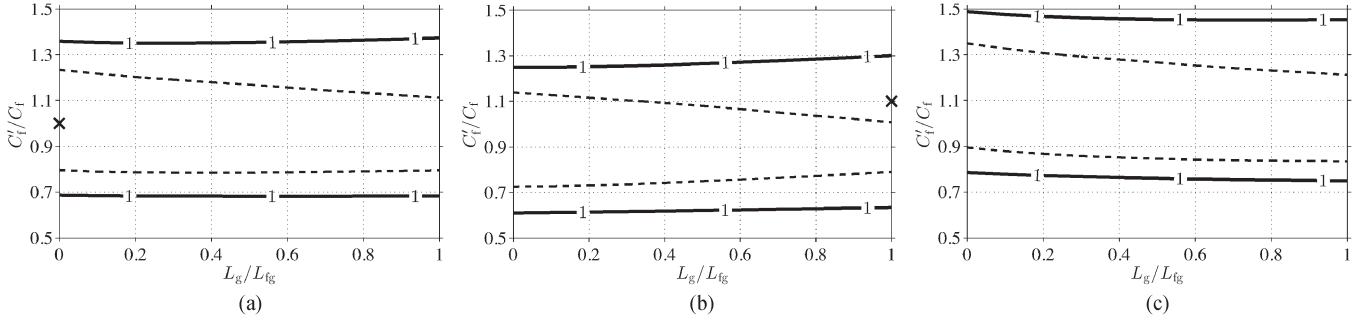


Fig. 8. Stability regions as a function of the relative capacitance  $C'_f/C_f$  and grid inductance  $L_g/L_{fg}$  errors. Between the unity contours, all the eigenvalues of the closed-loop system are inside the unit circle (stable system). Between the dashed lines, the damping ratios of the eigenvalues are at least 0.05. Points marked by the crosses refer to the simulations in Fig. 9. (a) Real inductances in the LCL filter are nominal, i.e.,  $L'_{fc} = L_{fc}$  and  $L'_{fg} = L_{fg}$ . (b) Real inductances are  $L'_{fc} = 1.1L_{fc}$  and  $L'_{fg} = 1.1L_{fg}$ . (c) Real inductances are  $L'_{fc} = 0.9L_{fc}$  and  $L'_{fg} = 0.9L_{fg}$ .

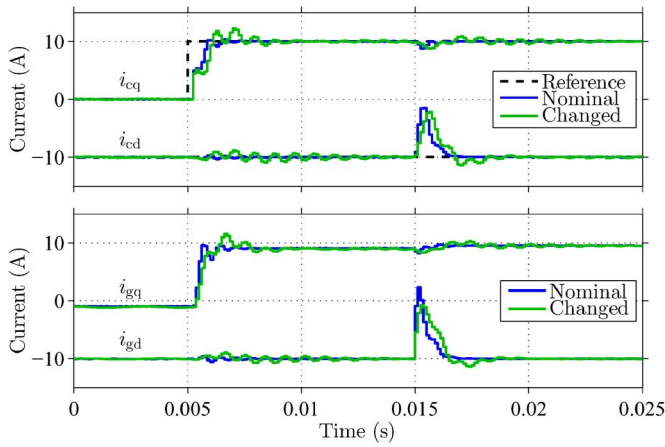


Fig. 9. Current step and grid-voltage dip responses, when the real system parameters are nominal ( $L'_{fc} = L_{fc}$ ,  $L'_{fg} = L_{fg}$ ,  $C'_f = C_f$ , and  $L_g = 0$ ) and changed ( $L'_{fc} = 1.1L_{fc}$ ,  $L'_{fg} = 1.1L_{fg}$ ,  $C'_f = 1.1C_f$ , and  $L_g = L_{fg}$ ). Simulated (top) converter currents and (bottom) grid currents.

used for synchronization [18], and its closed-loop poles were set to the natural frequency of  $2\pi \cdot 20$  rad/s with a damping ratio of  $1/\sqrt{2}$ . The reference  $i_{cd,ref}$  of the converter current was set to -10 A [-0.4 per unit (p.u.)], and the step of 10 A (0.4 p.u.) was applied in the reference  $i_{cq,ref}$  at  $t = 5$  ms. A symmetric grid-voltage dip from 1 to 0.5 p.u. was applied at  $t = 15$  ms.

Fig. 9 shows simulation results for two cases: 1) the real filter parameters are nominal, and the grid is stiff; and 2) the real filter parameters differ from the nominal ones ( $L'_{fc} = 1.1L_{fc}$ ,  $C'_f = 1.1C_f$ , and  $L'_{fg} = 1.1L_{fg}$ ), and the grid inductance is  $L_g = L_{fg}$ . The simulation results agree well with the analysis. The system is stable in both cases, but the resonance damping is lower, and the dominant dynamics are slightly slower in the case of parameter errors. It is to be noted that the analysis and simulations were carried out using the lossless LCL filter model; in practice, the losses increase damping.

## V. EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

The proposed current control method was verified experimentally using a 12.5-kVA 400-V grid-connected converter

equipped with an LCL filter. The control method was implemented on the dSPACE DS1006 processor board. The switching frequency of the converter was 4 kHz, and synchronous sampling (twice per carrier) was used. The system parameters are given in Table I. The converter under test was regulating the dc-bus voltage at 650 V, whereas another back-to-back connected converter was feeding the load to the bus. Synchronization was implemented with the PLL described in Section IV-B.

### A. Comparison Between the Proposed Method and Its Continuous-Time Counterpart

Tuning of the control system equals the tuning example introduced in Section IV-A and Table II. The proposed controller was experimentally compared with a corresponding observer-based state-space controller, which uses the same feedback information but is based on the continuous-time design [10]. The comparison was arranged as follows: 1) the same desired damping ratios were used; 2) the observer pole locations were equal in both methods under comparison; and 3) the dominant dynamics of the continuous-time design were tuned such that the converter-current rise time equaled that of the proposed design.

Fig. 10 shows measured responses of the converter and grid currents, when a step of 10 A (0.4 p.u.) was applied in the converter current reference  $i_{cq,ref}$ . Approximately, the power of 5 kW (0.4 p.u.) was transferred through the converter leading to  $i_{cd} \approx 10$  A. It is to be noted that the grid currents were measured for monitoring purposes only and they were not used in the control.

As the results show, the resonant dynamics are poorly damped in the case of the continuous-time design [10]. This is because the resonance frequency of 1.47 kHz is relatively high compared with the sampling frequency of 8 kHz, i.e., only a few samples are obtained during the period of the resonance frequency that should be damped. The controller designed in the continuous-time domain gives only an approximate mapping from the specified dynamics (the closed-loop poles) to the controller gains and cannot fully treat the delays in the system. Hence, the realized dynamics are much worse than the desired dynamics. If the switching frequency (i.e., the sampling frequency) were increased or the specified



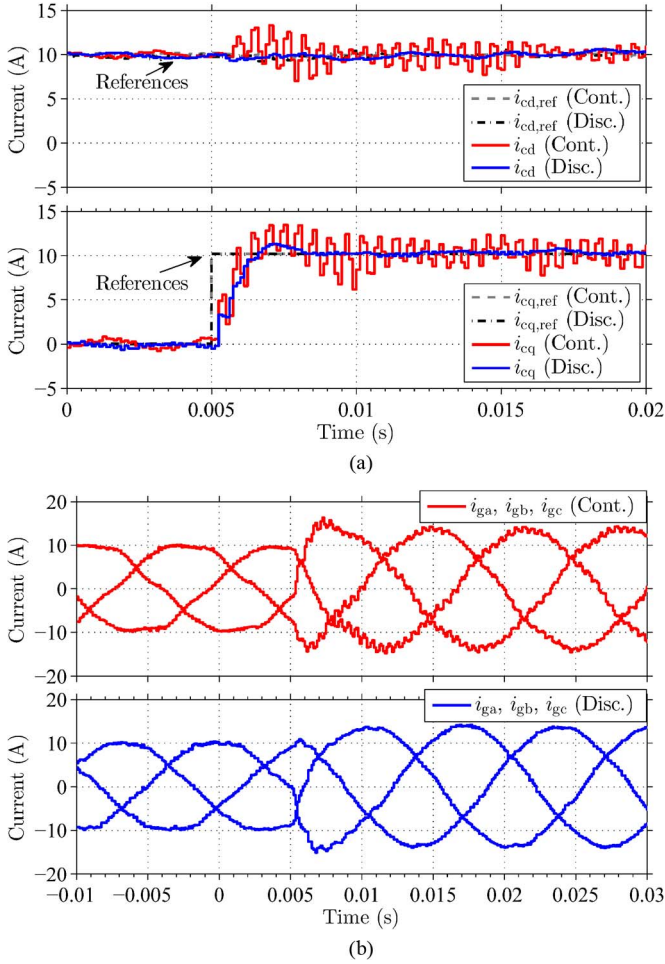


Fig. 10. Experimental comparison of the discrete-time (disc.) and continuous-time (cont.) control designs. Measured step responses. (a) Converter current components  $i_{cd}$  and  $i_{cq}$ . (b) Grid currents  $i_{ga}$ ,  $i_{gb}$ , and  $i_{gc}$ .

bandwidth were lowered, the resonance damping of the continuous-time design [10] would be closer to the desired performance specifications.

As shown in Fig. 10, the damping of the resonance frequency agrees well with the specified ratio  $\zeta_{cr} = 0.2$  in the case of the proposed discrete-time design. Moreover, the experimental results are in line with the corresponding analysis shown in Fig. 5 and the simulated results shown in Fig. 9.

### B. Operation During Grid Disturbances

Disturbance rejection of the proposed method under grid-voltage harmonics and dips was experimentally evaluated. The distorted grid voltage was supplied using a 50-kVA three-phase four-quadrant power supply (Regatron TopCon TC.ACS).

1) *Grid-Voltage Harmonics*: The fifth and seventh harmonic components ( $u_{g5}$  and  $u_{g7}$ , respectively) were superimposed on the grid voltage. Three different harmonic levels (0%, 3%, and 5%) were tested. The converter was rectifying a power of 1 p.u. The grid currents  $i_{ga}$ ,  $i_{gb}$ , and  $i_{gc}$  were monitored. In addition to the measurements, the same harmonic levels were simulated. The resulting harmonic currents  $i_{g5}$  and  $i_{g7}$  are given in Table III.

TABLE III  
HARMONIC COMPONENTS UNDER DISTURBANCES

$u_{g5}, u_{g7}$ (%)	Simulated		Measured		THD (%)
	$i_{g5}$ (%)	$i_{g7}$ (%)	$i_{g5}$ (%)	$i_{g7}$ (%)	
0	0.05	0.02	1.06	0.35	1.6
3	2.40	2.58	2.42	2.34	3.6
5	3.97	4.30	3.75	4.01	5.6

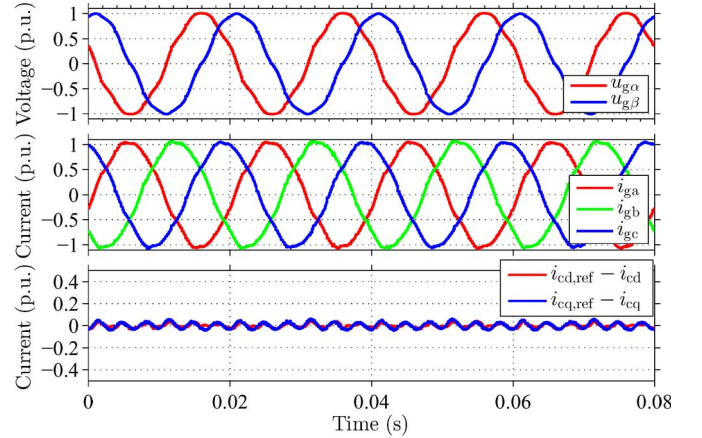


Fig. 11. Measured (top) grid voltage, (middle) grid currents, and (bottom) control errors of the converter current, when the grid voltage is distorted ( $u_{g5} = u_{g7} = 3\%$ ).

The total harmonic distortion (THD) of the grid current was calculated up to the 50th order. Without the harmonic disturbances, the THD is 1.6%, which is well below the 5% limit often given in standards (e.g., IEEE Std 519-2014 and IEEE Std 1547). Fig. 11 shows the grid currents and the control errors of the converter current in the case of the distorted voltage  $u_{g5} = u_{g7} = 3\%$ . The harmonic components of the grid current conform to the aforementioned standards ( $i_{g5} < 4\%$ ,  $i_{g7} < 4\%$ , and  $\text{THD} < 5\%$ ). When the harmonic level is increased to  $u_{g5} = u_{g7} = 5\%$ , corresponding to the recommended maximum level in IEEE Std 519-2014, the current component  $i_{g7}$  is slightly over the 4% limit and  $\text{THD} > 5\%$ . The measured harmonic components are also in line with the simulated components given in Table III. In order to improve the harmonic-disturbance rejection, the proposed control scheme could be augmented with resonant integrators in parallel with the existing integrator (cf., e.g., [4], [19], and [20]).

2) *Grid-Voltage Dip*: Disturbance rejection against the grid-voltage dip of 0.5 p.u. was evaluated. The converter was supplying the power of 0.4 p.u. to the grid. The measured responses of the grid currents and control errors of the converter current are shown in Fig. 12. As can be seen, the proposed method can reject the voltage dip well, and the cross-coupling between the error components is minor. Moreover, the measured error dynamics correspond to the designed dynamics. The slower mode in the dynamics of the grid currents originates from the dc-voltage control that is giving the references for the current controller.

## VI. DISCUSSION

The proposed method was analytically tuned assuming the lossless LCL filter. This assumption enables analytical control

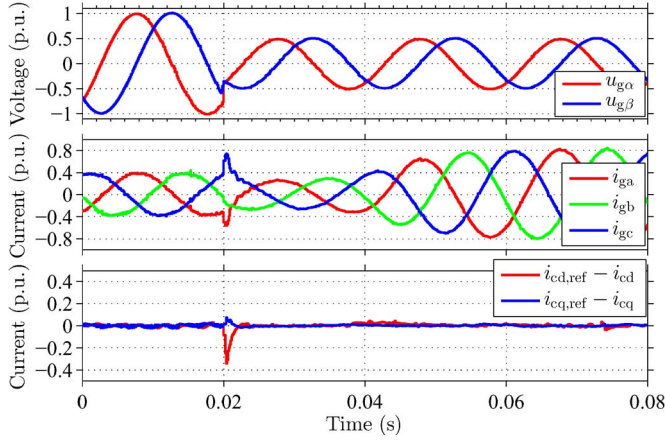


Fig. 12. Measured (top) grid voltage, (middle) grid currents, and (bottom) control errors of the converter current, when a grid-voltage dip is applied.

tuning, and it represents the worst case scenario for the resonance of the LCL filter. The experimental results were shown for a low-power converter equipped with an LCL filter that has relatively higher losses in comparison with filters designed for higher power ratings (reaching megavoltampere ratings). As shown by the results, the accuracy of the lossless model is adequate in order to achieve desired dynamic performance. On the other hand, the simulation models were lossless. Thus, it can be concluded that the proposed method is valid for lossless filters (or low-loss filters) as well. This is valuable in the case of the higher power ratings, where both the losses and switching frequencies tend to be lower.

The accurate parameter estimates and the stiff grid voltage have been assumed in the control design. In these ideal conditions, the current-control dynamics do not couple with the PLL dynamics. Naturally, the stable current-control loop in the ideal conditions is a practical precondition for the stability of the entire control system. In weak grids, current control together with the PLL may cause converter-grid or converter-converter interactions leading to oscillations or instability [19], [21]–[24]. In order to mitigate the oscillations, the output impedance of the converter has been shaped [21]. Since the current-control bandwidth is typically high in comparison with outer control loops, current control has an impact on the output impedance in a wide range of frequencies.

Since the proposed control method is flexible, it could be used to shape the converter output impedance via its design parameters. Moreover, the degrees of freedom equal those of the methods in [3] and [4], but less sensors are needed because of the state observer. The number of the sensors could be further decreased by replacing the grid-voltage measurement with estimation as in [7], [8], and [25]–[27].

## VII. CONCLUSION

This paper has presented a direct discrete-time design method for an observer-based state-space current controller of a grid converter equipped with an LCL filter. Model-based pole placement in synchronous coordinates is used to derive an analytical control design. Contrary to LQ control, the proposed ap-

proach enables automatic tuning and real-time adaptation of the controller, if the system parameters are known or estimated. The effect of varying parameters on the stability is examined. The results indicate that the proposed control scheme is less sensitive to variation of the grid inductance than variation of the LCL filter parameters. The method is validated by means of simulations and experiments. The results show that higher dynamic performance and better resonance damping can be achieved with the proposed design in comparison with state-space control designed in the continuous-time domain. The results also show that the resonance of the LCL filter is well damped, and the dynamic performance specified by direct pole placement is obtained for the reference tracking and grid-voltage disturbance rejection.

## APPENDIX A

### HOLD-EQUIVALENT DISCRETE-TIME MODEL

The state transition matrix  $\Phi$  in (4) can be calculated, e.g., using eigendecomposition  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{P}\mathbf{\Lambda}\mathbf{P}^{-1}$ , where the eigenvector and eigenvalue matrices are

$$\mathbf{P} = \begin{bmatrix} -L_{fg}/L_{fc} & 1 & -L_{fg}/L_{fc} \\ -j\omega_p L_{fg} & 0 & j\omega_p L_{fg} \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (23)$$

$$\mathbf{\Lambda} = \text{diag} \{ -j(\omega_g + \omega_p), -j\omega_g, -j(\omega_g - \omega_p) \}.$$

With this decomposition, the matrix exponential is  $\Phi = e^{\mathbf{A}T_s} = \mathbf{P}e^{\mathbf{\Lambda}T_s}\mathbf{P}^{-1}$ , where the exponential of the diagonal matrix can be calculated elementwise. The result is

$$\Phi = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix} = \gamma \begin{bmatrix} \frac{L_{fc} + L_{fg} \cos(\omega_p T_s)}{L_t} & -\frac{\sin(\omega_p T_s)}{\omega_p L_{fc}} & \frac{L_{fg}[1 - \cos(\omega_p T_s)]}{L_t} \\ \frac{\sin(\omega_p T_s)}{\omega_p C_f} & \cos(\omega_p T_s) & -\frac{\sin(\omega_p T_s)}{\omega_p C_f} \\ \frac{L_{fc}[1 - \cos(\omega_p T_s)]}{L_t} & \frac{\sin(\omega_p T_s)}{\omega_p L_{fg}} & \frac{L_{fg} + L_{fc} \cos(\omega_p T_s)}{L_t} \end{bmatrix} \quad (24)$$

where  $\gamma = e^{-j\omega_g T_s}$ , and  $L_t = L_{fc} + L_{fg}$ . The input matrix for the converter voltage (5) is

$$\Gamma_c = \mathbf{P} \left( \int_0^{T_s} e^{\mathbf{A}\tau} e^{-j\omega_g(T_s - \tau)} d\tau \right) \mathbf{P}^{-1} \mathbf{B}_c. \quad (25)$$

The resulting input matrix for the converter voltage is

$$\Gamma_c = \begin{bmatrix} b_{c1} \\ b_{c2} \\ b_{c3} \end{bmatrix} = \gamma \begin{bmatrix} \frac{T_s}{L_t} + \frac{L_{fg} \sin(\omega_p T_s)}{\omega_p L_{fc} L_t} \\ \frac{L_{fg}[1 - \cos(\omega_p T_s)]}{L_t} \\ \frac{T_s}{L_t} - \frac{\sin(\omega_p T_s)}{\omega_p L_t} \end{bmatrix}. \quad (26)$$

Using similar calculations, coefficients of the input matrix for the grid voltage  $\Gamma_g = [b_{g1}, b_{g2}, b_{g3}]^T$  in (5) become

$$\begin{aligned} b_{g1} &= \frac{\gamma [-\omega_g \omega_p \sin(\omega_p T_s) + j\omega_g^2 \cos(\omega_p T_s) - j\delta] - j\omega_p^2}{\delta\omega_g(L_{fc} + L_{fg})} \\ b_{g2} &= \frac{\gamma [\omega_p \cos(\omega_p T_s) + j\omega_g \sin(\omega_p T_s)] - \omega_p}{\delta\omega_p C_f L_{fg}} \\ b_{g3} &= \gamma \frac{\omega_g \omega_p L_{fc} \sin(\omega_p T_s) - j\delta L_{fg} - j\omega_g^2 L_{fc} \cos(\omega_p T_s)}{\delta\omega_g L_{fg}(L_{fc} + L_{fg})} \\ &\quad + \frac{j\delta L_{fg} + j\omega_g^2 L_{fc}}{\delta\omega_g L_{fg}(L_{fc} + L_{fg})} \end{aligned} \quad (27)$$

where  $\delta = \omega_g^2 - \omega_p^2$ .

## APPENDIX B ANALYTICAL GAIN EXPRESSIONS

### A. State-Feedback Gain

The desired characteristic polynomial (14) is expressed as

$$a(z) = z^5 + a_4 z^4 + a_3 z^3 + a_2 z^2 + a_1 z + a_0 \quad (28)$$

where the coefficients as functions of the pole locations are

$$\begin{aligned} a_0 &= 0, \quad a_1 = \alpha_1 \alpha_2 \alpha_3 \alpha_4 \\ a_2 &= -\alpha_1 \alpha_2 \alpha_3 - \alpha_1 \alpha_2 \alpha_4 - \alpha_1 \alpha_3 \alpha_4 - \alpha_2 \alpha_3 \alpha_4 \\ a_3 &= \alpha_1 \alpha_2 + \alpha_1 \alpha_3 + \alpha_1 \alpha_4 + \alpha_2 \alpha_3 + \alpha_2 \alpha_4 + \alpha_3 \alpha_4 \\ a_4 &= -\alpha_1 - \alpha_2 - \alpha_3 - \alpha_4. \end{aligned} \quad (29)$$

Analytical expressions for the state-feedback gain  $K_a$  as a function of the system parameters and the desired coefficients  $a_i$  are derived in the following. The discrete-time system parameters  $a_{ij}$ ,  $b_{ci}$ , and  $b_{gi}$  ( $i, j = 1, \dots, 3$ ) are given in (24), (26), and (27), respectively. The determinant in (13) is calculated, leading to

$$\begin{aligned} a(z) &= \det(z\mathbf{I} - \Phi_a + \Gamma_{ca} K_a) \\ &= z^5 + (k_4 - a_{22} - a_{33} - a_{11} - 1)z^4 \\ &\quad + (p_3 k_4 + q_3 k_1 + r_3 k_2 + s_3 k_3 + p_2)z^3 \\ &\quad + (p_2 k_4 + q_2 k_1 + r_2 k_2 + s_2 k_3 + t_2 k_4 + p_1)z^2 \\ &\quad + (p_1 k_4 + q_1 k_1 + r_1 k_2 + s_1 k_3 + t_1 k_4 + p_0)z \\ &\quad + p_0 k_4 + q_0 k_1 + r_0 k_2 + s_0 k_3 + t_0 k_4 \end{aligned} \quad (30)$$

where  $p_i$ ,  $q_i$ ,  $r_i$ ,  $s_i$ , and  $t_i$  ( $i = 0, \dots, 3$ ) are functions of the system parameters

$$\begin{aligned} p_0 &= f_3 a_{11} + f_4 a_{21} + f_5 a_{31} \\ q_0 &= -f_3 b_{c1} - f_4 b_{c2} - f_5 b_{c3} \\ r_0 &= f_6 b_{c1} - f_2 b_{c2} + (a_{11} a_{23} - a_{13} a_{21}) b_{c3} \\ s_0 &= f_7 b_{c1} + (a_{11} a_{32} - a_{12} a_{31}) b_{c2} - f_1 b_{c3} \\ t_0 &= f_3 b_{c1} + f_4 b_{c2} + f_5 b_{c3} \end{aligned} \quad (31)$$

$$\begin{aligned} p_1 &= -p_0 - f_1 - f_2 - f_3 \\ q_1 &= -q_0 + (a_{22} + a_{33}) b_{c1} - a_{12} b_{c2} - a_{13} b_{c3} \\ r_1 &= -r_0 - a_{21} b_{c1} + (a_{11} + a_{33}) b_{c2} - a_{23} b_{c3} \\ s_1 &= -s_0 - a_{31} b_{c1} - a_{32} b_{c2} + (a_{11} + a_{22}) b_{c3} \\ t_1 &= -(a_{22} + a_{33}) b_{c1} + a_{12} b_{c2} + a_{13} b_{c3} \end{aligned} \quad (32)$$

$$\begin{aligned} p_2 &= a_{11} + a_{22} + a_{33} + f_1 + f_2 + f_3 \\ q_2 &= -(a_{22} + a_{33} + 1) b_{c1} + a_{12} b_{c2} + a_{13} b_{c3} \\ r_2 &= -(a_{11} + a_{33} + 1) b_{c2} + a_{21} b_{c1} + a_{23} b_{c3} \\ s_2 &= -(a_{11} + a_{22} + 1) b_{c3} + a_{31} b_{c1} + a_{32} b_{c2} \\ t_2 &= b_{c1} \end{aligned} \quad (33)$$

$$\begin{aligned} p_3 &= -a_{11} - a_{22} - a_{33} - 1 \\ q_3 &= b_{c1}, \quad r_3 = b_{c2}, \quad s_3 = b_{c3} \end{aligned} \quad (34)$$

where the auxiliary parameters are

$$\begin{aligned} f_1 &= a_{11} a_{22} - a_{12} a_{21}, \quad f_2 = a_{11} a_{33} - a_{13} a_{31} \\ f_3 &= a_{22} a_{33} - a_{23} a_{32}, \quad f_4 = a_{13} a_{32} - a_{12} a_{33} \\ f_5 &= a_{12} a_{23} - a_{13} a_{22}, \quad f_6 = a_{21} a_{33} - a_{23} a_{31} \\ f_7 &= a_{22} a_{31} - a_{21} a_{32}. \end{aligned} \quad (35)$$

Equating (28) and (30) directly gives the gain

$$k_4 = a_4 + a_{11} + a_{22} + a_{33} + 1 \quad (36)$$

and, furthermore, a system of four linear equations, i.e.,

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} q_0 & r_0 & s_0 & t_0 \\ q_1 & r_1 & s_1 & t_1 \\ q_2 & r_2 & s_2 & t_2 \\ q_3 & r_3 & s_3 & 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{M}} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} k_1 \\ k_2 \\ k_3 \\ k_4 \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{K}'} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} a_0 - p_0 k_4 \\ a_1 - p_1 k_4 - p_0 \\ a_2 - p_2 k_4 - p_1 \\ a_3 - p_3 k_4 - p_2 \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{W}} \quad (37)$$

where (36) has been used. The remaining gains could be solved using matrix inversion  $\mathbf{K}' = \mathbf{M}^{-1} \mathbf{W}$ . In real-time systems, it is more efficient to solve the gains using the following steps.

1) The mapping matrix  $\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{LU}$  is expressed using the LU decomposition as

$$\mathbf{M} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ l_{21} & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ l_{31} & l_{32} & 1 & 0 \\ l_{41} & l_{42} & l_{43} & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{L}} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} u_{11} & u_{12} & u_{13} & u_{14} \\ 0 & u_{22} & u_{23} & u_{24} \\ 0 & 0 & u_{33} & u_{34} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & u_{44} \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{U}}. \quad (38)$$

- 2) Equating (37) and (38) gives the elements of the lower diagonal matrix  $\mathbf{L}$ , i.e.,

$$\begin{aligned} l_{21} &= q_1/q_0 & l_{31} &= q_2/q_0, & l_{32} &= (r_2 - l_{31}r_0)/u_{22} \\ l_{41} &= q_3/q_0, & l_{42} &= (r_3 - l_{41}r_0)/u_{22} \\ l_{43} &= (s_3 - l_{41}s_0 - l_{42}u_{23})/u_{33} \end{aligned} \quad (39)$$

and of the upper diagonal matrix  $\mathbf{U}$ , i.e.,

$$\begin{aligned} u_{11} &= q_0 & u_{12} &= r_0, & u_{22} &= r_1 - r_0l_{21} \\ u_{13} &= s_0, & u_{23} &= s_1 - s_0l_{21} \\ u_{33} &= s_2 - l_{31}s_0 - l_{32}u_{23}, & u_{14} &= t_0 \\ u_{24} &= t_1 - t_0l_{21}, & u_{34} &= t_2 - l_{31}t_0 - l_{32}u_{24} \\ u_{44} &= -l_{41}t_0 - l_{42}u_{24} - l_{43}u_{34}. \end{aligned} \quad (40)$$

- 3) The decomposition enables calculation of the gains from  $\mathbf{L}\mathbf{U}\mathbf{K}' = \mathbf{W}$  by solving two back-substitution problems:  $\mathbf{L}\mathbf{C} = \mathbf{W}$  and  $\mathbf{U}\mathbf{K}' = \mathbf{C}$ . The elements of the auxiliary vector  $\mathbf{C} = [c_0, c_1, c_2, c_3]^T$  are obtained by solving the first back-substitution problem  $\mathbf{C} = \mathbf{L}^{-1}\mathbf{W}$ , i.e.,

$$\begin{aligned} c_0 &= w_0, & c_1 &= w_1 - l_{21}c_0 \\ c_2 &= w_2 - l_{31}c_0 - l_{32}c_1, \\ c_3 &= w_3 - l_{41}c_0 - l_{42}c_1 - l_{43}c_2 \end{aligned} \quad (41)$$

where  $w_i$  are the elements of  $\mathbf{W} = [w_0, w_1, w_2, w_3]^T$  in (37).

- 4) The second back-substitution problem  $\mathbf{K}' = \mathbf{U}^{-1}\mathbf{C}$  gives the gains

$$\begin{aligned} k_1 &= c_3/u_{44} \\ k_3 &= (c_2 - u_{34}k_1)/u_{33} \\ k_2 &= (c_1 - u_{23}k_3 - u_{24}k_1)/u_{22} \\ k_1 &= (c_0 - u_{12}k_2 - u_{13}k_3 - u_{14}k_1)/u_{11}. \end{aligned} \quad (42)$$

These steps were also applied in the real-time implementation in Section V. If the filter parameters and performance specifications are constant, these gains need to be calculated only once (during the start-up of a converter).

### B. Observer Gain

The desired coefficients of the characteristic polynomial (21) as functions of the desired pole locations are

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_{o0} &= -\alpha_{o1}\alpha_{o2}\alpha_{o3} \\ \alpha_{o1} &= \alpha_{o1}\alpha_{o2} + \alpha_{o1}\alpha_{o3} + \alpha_{o2}\alpha_{o3} \\ \alpha_{o2} &= -\alpha_{o1} - \alpha_{o2} - \alpha_{o3}. \end{aligned} \quad (43)$$

Analytical expressions for the observer gains as a function of the system parameters and the desired coefficients are

$$\begin{aligned} k_{o1} &= \alpha_{o2} + \alpha_{11} + \alpha_{22} + \alpha_{33} \\ k_{o2} &= [f_5(\alpha_{o1} - f_1 - f_2 - f_3 + \alpha_{22}k_{o1} + \alpha_{33}k_{o1}) \\ &\quad - \alpha_{13}(\alpha_{o0} + \alpha_{11}f_3 - \alpha_{12}f_6 - \alpha_{13}f_7 - f_3k_{o1})] \\ &\quad /(\alpha_{12}f_5 - \alpha_{13}f_4) \\ k_{o3} &= (\alpha_{o0} + \alpha_{11}f_3 - \alpha_{12}f_6 - \alpha_{13}f_7 \\ &\quad - f_3k_{o1} - f_4k_{o2})/f_5 \end{aligned} \quad (44)$$

where the auxiliary parameters  $f_i$  are given in (35).

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